



FROM A SERIES OF VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES YOU CAN USE, PRESENTED BY IBM

Kids Code!

Use your smartphone or log onto a website, stream a movie to your television, or get cash from an ATM — all of these are enabled by software development aka coding. Yet schools are under-producing graduates with computer science skills and knowledge. In this activity you will help promote software development introducing coding concepts using the IBM Bluemix platform — a platform that people with little to no development background can use to learn the fundamentals of coding. In just minutes you'll be able to show young coders how to use this tool to create applications.

Impact!

- Audience: kids (age 12–17)
- Introduce engineering to simple development concepts that can help them create fun applications
- Break down the complexity of coding
- Interest young people in careers as developers

Is this right for me?

You don't have to be an expert in software development to understand its importance in our world. As a business professional you use and see the impact of apps and development every day. Those who are not developers will be able to easily absorb the information and introduce students to the basics of web development. This activity is for you if you have:

- Good presentation skills
- Want to help others learn more about the technology that helps run our world

What's the commitment?

- One hour to review and prepare for the presentation
- 30 minutes to meet school representatives, introduce the materials and schedule time to present the activity
- One hour to present and complete the activity



Step by step

1 Review the Kids Code! Volunteer Guide.

Follow the steps to set up an IBM Bluemix and IBM DevOps Services ID. Familiarize yourself with these platforms and with the CoderDojo. You'll also need to review the video mentioned in the guide and familiarize yourself with the Kids Code! Cards.

2 Discuss and review the activity with a school, after-school program, or youth group. Determine a good time to present the activity.

3 Give the presentation; you will need a laptop, projector, and sufficient audio speakers so your audience can hear the videos.

Tips & options

- You can emphasize the wide range of activities in which developers are involved by pointing out the web browser, the PC operating system, the apps on students' smartphones, etc..
- The students will need Bluemix IDs. These are best obtained in advance by providing them the information for obtaining the IDs when confirming their event registration. Alternatively, request a set of IDs yourself for use that day, and then reset after the event.
- Place students in groups of 4-5 and explain the concepts of the application. While the material used centers on the basics of a web application, it can be extended into more advanced coding for experienced kids.
- A variation of this activity is to organize a single-day event where a group of volunteers come together and create a more elaborate Bluemix application activity, and split the students into smaller groups for more personalized assistance from volunteers.

Activity resources

- *Kids Code!* Volunteer Guide
- *Kids Code!* Presentation
- *Kids Code!* Cards
- Websites for more information about coding and app development:
 - IBM developerWorks Bluemix site: ibm.com/developerworks/topics/bluemix
 - CoderDojo: ibm.biz/bluemix4dojo
- Share your opinion about this activity

Please help improve IBM's volunteering resources by completing a brief, anonymous survey about this activity kit. You can also invite participants in your activity to share their opinions, by providing them the survey link:

ibm.com/volunteer/?selectKit=47

About this volunteer activity

IBM is sharing activities our employees have performed successfully worldwide, and we invite you to use them in your own community. Many are drawn from our community service initiative, On Demand Community, which supports our colleagues' volunteer efforts. Find more activities in this series at ibm.com/volunteer.

